



BACKGROUND

What does annexation mean?

Annexation is the legal process in which cities or towns add land to their municipal boundaries and expand while adding residents living in that area to their population.

Why is West Lafayette doing an annexation?

West Lafayette is the most densely populated city in Indiana and the 27th most densely populated in the U.S. The community is running out of room to continue much needed economic development to help ensure West Lafayette's future success in the 21st Century. Annexation will promote private investment on the west side, enhance Purdue Research Foundation's ability to commercialize and provide a gateway to West Lafayette and Purdue University for future development.

What parts of Tippecanoe County do City officials plan to annex?

See the map (available in hard copy or on West Lafayette's Web site: www.westlafayette.in.gov/annexation)

How many property owners would be affected?

Approximately 1,500 parcels would be affected with the annexation adding approximately 5,000 acres into the City.

PROCESS

What is the process for the planned annexation?

- first reading of the proposed annexation ordinance will be held during the West Lafayette City Council meeting Monday, May 6 at 6:30 p.m.
- West Lafayette City Council must adopt a fiscal plan regarding the proposed annexation
- certified mailing (notice of a public hearing) to each property owner on the Auditor's current tax list at least 60 days prior to a public hearing
- second reading of the proposed annexation ordinance will be held during a future City Council meeting
- ordinance may be adopted at least 30 days but not more than 60 days following the public hearing
- once the adopted ordinance is published, a 90-day remonstrance (formal objection) period begins
- if no remonstrance is filed, the annexation takes effect.

What is the purpose of a fiscal plan?

A fiscal plan explains what services property owners in the newly annexed area will receive and how the City will provide them.

BENEFITS

What benefits would property owners receive as a result of annexation?

Indiana law requires services in annexed areas be the same as services in comparable parts of the City. Those annexed would receive enhanced services including increased fire and police protection, snow removal, street sweeping, recycling (including a free 48-gallon Toter roll-out cart), brush and trash collection (including large item pick-up).

COSTS

What is the primary cost associated with an annexation?

A potential property tax increase will be offset by increased, comprehensive City services for property owners in the annexed area, including reduced time on fire responses and a special patrol district created for law enforcement services.

How much will my property taxes increase?

For a parcel-by-parcel calculation, go to: www.westlafayette.in.gov/annexation. Stormwater fees and property taxes will increase while trash fees and fire response times will decrease, along with City departmental equipment and services applied towards the newly annexed area.

MISCELLANEOUS

What if I don't want my property to be annexed?

See Indiana Code 36-4-3 for remonstrance procedures.